

# Hill Group Eyes 'Flying Saucers'

The Senate Preparedness sub-committee is under standing orders from Democratic leader Lyndon B. Johnson to keep a "close watch" on any new developments related to unidentified flying objects, a group of flying saucer watchers said today.

Sen. Johnson, Democratic vice presidential candidate, also has directed the sub-committee staff to report to him any "significant" sightings of saucers along with an analysis of the Air Force investigation of them, the group said.

Marine Air Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, (Ret.), head of the group, called the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, said Sen. Johnson told him of the orders in a letter.

## CONFIRMED

Congressional sources later confirmed that the sub-committee has been keeping the check for some time.

Keyhoe's group has been demanding for years that the Government concede flying saucers really exist. The Defense Department has said repeatedly that almost all unidentified flying objects can be explained as normal phenomena.

Mr. Keyhoe made public what he said was Sen. Johnson's letter along with a statement accusing the Air Force of a "wrong and dangerous" policy in allegedly suppressing information on UFOs.

Mr. Keyhoe's committee said it had carefully evaluated hundreds of saucer sightings by military and airline pilots, missile trackers and other experts over the past three years.

"It was the majority conclusion," he said, "that the UFOs reported by these skilled observers were unknown devices under intelligent control."

## SUPPORTED

Mr. Keyhoe said that one of those concurring in this view was Vice Admiral R. H. Hillenkoetter (ret.), former head of the Central Intelligence Agency, and now a member of the saucer group, plus 200 other military experts, scientists, engineers and analysts.

There might be danger that unrecognized UFO's could accidentally set off a war with Russia, Mr. Keyhoe said. He said such a warning had been given by French Gen. L. M. Chassin, Nato coordinator of allied air forces.

He said Gen. Chassin urged world governments to study the possibility that flying saucers exist "if only to avoid the danger of global tragedy."

Mr. Keyhoe claimed that several false air alerts in the United States already were on record. He said some were caused by defense radar operator's mistaking "UFO formations" for possible enemy aircraft (UPL).